Start of Kaja Maliszkiewicz-Ward Collection

AR 11802

Sys #: 000378140

LEO BAECK INSTITUTE

Center for Jewish History

15 West 16th Street
New York, NY 10011

Phone: (212) 744-6400
Fax: (212) 988-1305
Email: lbaeck@lbi.cjh.org
URL: http://www.lbi.org

AR MED2 1/1 Kaja Malkiewicz-Ward collection 2021

Draft translation of „The Rabbi"
by B. Janicki & Kaja Maliszkiewicz-Ward

Part 1

Page 5

- You're still up?
- Yeah. I'm doing homework about some guy named "Baeck."

-You'd better get some sleep. Tomorrow is Friday the 13th!

(on the screen) Google/ "Leo Baeck", free wikipedia.

Page 6

-Oh, why don't we have "Mr. Tardy" read us his homework assignment from last night?

Leo Baeck, rabbi, and author of many valued publications…

-Great! Józef Beck is rolling over in his grave! You were supposed to write about Minister Józef Beck and not Leo Baeck!

"Why does it have to be Friday the 13th?"

Later

Jacek, bring me potatoes from the cellar!

Page 7

No way, this name again?
My house!!
And isn't this our city market?!
What was this Baeck doing in Opole?

Page 8

-The next candidate is Leo Baeck.
-That's me.
-The topic of my presentation will be on the philosopher Spinoza.

-Hmm…
-One has to have courage to choose Spinoza as a topic for a competition speech…

Page 9

Therefore I'm announcing Leo Baeck the new Rabbi.

A month later

I hope that I will manage new responsibilities well. The parish has allocated me to an apartment at 24 Gartenstrasse, close to the town market.

The community is very welcoming and the city Oppeln itself – beautiful.
I'm also supposed to teach in the local gymnasium...

Page 10

"If after graduation I would stay in Breslau and didn't find a job immediately, would I now be next to him?"

-Watch out, he's coming!
-Sit down. Today I'd like to direct your thought to the problem of…

Page 11

-I apologize for being late.
-No, I apologize for having started without you.

A few days later, Hospitalstrasse

-The size of our community is increasing. Our synagogue doesn't fit us all anymore.

-We will have to build a new, bigger one.
-But where to find the funds?

Page 12

-We will have to sell what we have.

Monday, June 21st 1897. Moving the synagogue.
Arrows: old synagogue, new synagogue

An architect of the new synagogue, Felix Henry is handing the keys to the president of the Jewish Community, Max Friedlaender.

Page 13

-I'm opening you now, sacred gate, for the pious and faithful.

-Such a young rabbi needs a good wife.
-Seems as rabbi Wiener's granddaughter has thought about it already as well.

Opole, year 1902

Page 14

-Interesting…It has been laud about the Reverend Harnack's book, *The Essence Of Christianity*.
And what is the essence of Judaism?

In the evening

-Will Papa play with me?
-I wonder what he's doing…

Page 15

-Papa is working again?
My little Ruth!
Papa is writing an important book. Soon he will finish and he will have time only for us!

Opole, year 1905

-Newspapers!

Page 16

-Great success of a rabbi from Opole!!!
-We've been lucky with this young rabbi. His book *The essence of Judaism* is gaining popularity.
-That is true. But something tells me, that soon bigger German cities will claim for him.

-Mr. postman brought a letter for Papa!
-I'm supposed to be a rabbi in Dusseldorf…

Page 17

Year 1907

-You wanted to leave without a goodbye?
-When I came here, nobody was greeting me. And now…
I'm very moved, that you have all come here.
-Remember us!

Page 18

-I will never forget you and this city, which gave me so much!
On the transparent: "Goodbye Dear".

Part 2

Page 20 – the text on the newspaper front page.

Leo Baeck in Berlin
An author of the book *The Essence of Judaism*, doctor Leo Baeck has arrived to our city. He will take office of the rabbi, by the synagogue located at Fasanenenstrasse. He will also be lecturing in the Higher Institute for Jewish Studies.
Curiously, Leo Baeck is a graduate of the school mentioned above. Therefore, it will be a back in the old walls.

Balkans alarmed
Monte Negro is bringing grievances towards the Turkish government. The purpose of discords is the matter of the border dividing the two countries. The government of the German Empire is concerned about this turn of events. Is the war evitable?

Echoes of the "Titanic" tragedy
After detailed analysis of the passenger list, it has been established that the sea tragedy took away 1504 lives. The governments of European countries have made a decision about revising the regulations of the sea safety rules. Let's be hopeful, that the White Star ship owners will introduce the new rules as fast as possible.

Death of a great writer
Known German writer Karol May passed away in Radebeul by Dresden, after struggling with a disease. He created adventures of such characters as Winnetou, or Old Shatterland.

Page 21

-Hans, stop! I can't keep up with you!
-All right, all right then!

-Hey Ruth, look!
-An airplane! My uncle, pilot says, that there will be a war soon. War in the air!
-You're talking rubbish Hans! You'd better give me the kite!

-Hans, come home! It's service/piety time already!
-I'm coming, Mom!

Page 22

-Service? Today? It's Sunday, isn't it?
-Yeah, Sunday, What's strange about it?

-We always celebrate on Friday. That's when we have Shabbat.
-Friday? Strange… That means you're Jewish?

-Yes. My Papa is a rabbi.
-Ha! And mine is a preacher. Here!

-Bye!

Page 23

Berlin, 1914. Hoshschule fur die Wissenschaft des Judentums (German, original name)

-And that is why a rabbi must represent a Jewish way of living, hence be a little of a Spartan and a little of a Puritan.

-What do you mean by that?
-You have to live in such way, that the sermons you will give will reflect yourselves.

-Have you heard already? Kaiser declared war on Russia, England and France are threatening with retaliation.

-How?
-When?
-Doctor, how should rabbi act in such situation?

-Well, the rabbi's place is always where the Jews are…

Page 24

November 1914, Western Front

Page 25

-Chaplain needed!
-But which one? Catholic?
-Protestant?
-Does it matter which one?

-Rabbi, I believe.
-I'm coming.

-Rabbi, give me your blessing. I think my time has come…

Page 26

-Be strong. Soon we can all return home and forget about all this.
-Home? And do we have any home here, on Earth?

Berlin, the Thirties of the XX century

Page 27

-Did you see?!

On the post:

Law for the Protection of German Blood and German Honor
September 15, 1935

Thoroughly convinced by the knowledge that the purity of German blood is essential for the further existence of the German people and animated by the inflexible will to safe guard the German nation for the entire future, the Reichstag has resolved upon the following law unanimously, which is promulgated herewith:

SECTION 1

1. Marriages between Jews and nationals of German or kindred blood are forbidden. Marriages concluded in defiance of this law are void, even if, for the purpose of evading this law, they are concluded abroad.
2. Proceedings for annulment may be initiated only by the Public Prosecutor.

SECTION 2

Relation outside marriage between Jews and nationals for German or kindred blood are forbidden.

SECTION 3

Jews will not be permitted to employ female nationals of German or kindred blood in their households.

SECTION 4

1. Jews are forbidden to hoist the Reich and national flag and to present the colors of the Reich.
2. On the other hand they are permitted to present the Jewish colors. The exercise of this authority is protected by the State.

SECTION 5

1. A person who acts contrary to the prohibition of section 1 will be punished with hard labor.
2. A person who acts contrary to the prohibition of section 2 will be punished with imprisonment or with hard labor.
3. A person who acts contrary to the provisions of section 3 or 4 will be punished with imprisonment up to a year and with a fine or with one of these penalties.

SECTION 6

The Reich Minister of the Interior in agreement with the Deputy of the *Fuehrer* will issue the legal and administrative regulations which are required for the implementation and supplementation of this law.

SECTION 7

The law will become effective on the day after the promulgation, section 3 however only on 1 January, 1936.

Nuremberg, the 15th day of September 1935 at the Reich Party Rally of Freedom.

The Fuehrer and Reich Chancellor Adolph Hitler, *The Reich Minister of the Interior* Frick, *The Reich Minister of Justice* Dr. Goertne *The Deputy of the Fuehrer* R. Hess

-As a representant of the Jewish Community I've already tried intervening in this case, but Hitler is unbending.

-He's crazy! We should all be escaping from here.

-As long as there's one Jew left in Berlin, my duty is to be here.

-It is going to be over 10 years since the Great War has ended and something tells me, that a new one, even more terrible is coming.

Page 28

-Heil! (German)
-Heil! What's new Hans?

-Everywhere these Jews. Someone has to finally humble them down/teach them humility.

-Hey! Can't you see that you have an Aryan before you? Take off your hat!
-What do you mean?
-Help!

-Take it off, you dog!

-People, help me! They've attacked me!

Page 29

Germany, year 1939

-Hello, my boy. Is your Mom or Dad home?

-Yes?
-Good evening. My name is Leo Baeck. I wish to talk with you about this young man.
-I came to convince you to making a decision about Szimon's departure. As you know, we've collected money for his trip to Great Britain.

-No. I've been thinking about it long. I can't…

-Can't you see what is happening? Nobody is going to stop Hitler from further bedeviling Jews. There's no rescue for us anymore, but Szimon still has a chance.

-All right then.

-Mom, what happened?
- We have to, there's no other way.

Page 30

Berlin, 1943

Dear Johan,
It is the fourth year of the war already. I don't know how you're bearing it there – in Liverpool, because in Berlin life keeps getting worse.
After burning on that terrible night our chapels and shops, Germans are trying to destroy us, as if we were some kind of parasites.
They close Jews, Romes, Slaws in ghettos and later they annihilate them in death camps.
They call it Endlösung (German). *Maybe it's better that my Natalie didn't live till these times. It is my hope, that at least the future of children that we rescued is safe. It seems to me…*

-Aufmachen! (German)

-Leo Baeck?
-Yes.

-You're under arrest!

Page 31

-Raus! (German)

Theresienstadt Ghetto

-Now they're going to part us from our wives and children and divide to ones able to work and ones they can get rid of immediately.

Page 32

-That's you? Who are you?

-My name is Aaron. I am a Jew, and just like you I got here because of my origin.

-No talking! Keep walking to the front!

-What will happen to us now?
-This is the end.
-What do they want from us?
-We have to remain calm. We have to keep our dignity, even in a place like this one.

Page 33

How? How do you want to achieve that? What should we do?

-We can't sit and complain about our fate. We will organize our time as civilized people. We will show the Germans, that we are not animals and we can't be treated this way.

A few months later

-Pst! Wake up! I just found, that this camp is just a stop on the road to death.

-How come?
-Most of us will soon be transported to larger camps, like Auschwitz, where we will become slain.

-Germans have killed a lot of our people here. Even the scholars – Pick, Haas… Death is waiting for us everywhere. We have to escape. I know someone, who will help us…

-No! I'm a rabbi. I won't abandon my companions.

-Have you gone mad?
-My place is among the ones in need. Someone has to support those suffering people. We have to persevere. And don't tell anyone about transports to Auschwitz.

Page 34

-Why? Don't they have a right to know?
-If they find out, they will live in fear. And that's what German's want, isn't it?
Aaron, promise that you will not tell anybody about this.

-Promise, will you?

"Have I done the right thing? Why is nobody helping us? Has the world forgotten about us?

Spring of a year 1945

-I have no more strength. After my dearest Auguste's death I have nothing to live for.
- Don't say that. Soon all this will be over. You'll see.

-Did you hear?! Germans are running away! Russians are already in town! Any day they'll free us!

Page 35

-Is this possible? Is it really the end?
-No, Aaron. For us it is a beginning.

-But will we be able to live like we used to at all?

Epilogue

Page 37

-Jacek?
TV speaker: "In Opole a plaque will be revealed, commemorating Leo Baeck…"

-Look! They're showing our tenement!
-No wonder. This Leo Baeck used to live here…

-How do you know?
-Aaa, that's my little secret…

września „Gazeta" opisała niepokojący stan opolskich drzew i syzyfową pracę organizacji pozarządowych, które zabiegają o opiekę nad nimi. To przyniosło efekt. Po październikowym audycie zatrudnionych w ratuszu osób władze miasta postanowiły stworzyć osobne stanowisko ogrodnika miejskiego w wydziale ochrony środowiska.

Petycja ekologów

- Delikatnie mówiąc, niepokojący stan naszych drzew i zieleni miejskiej to problem, nad którym nie można przechodzić obojętnie, bo interesuje wielu mieszkańców naszego miasta. Ogromnie się cieszymy, że miasto podjęło taką decyzję, bo to dobry krok we właściwą stronę - mówi Beata Kubica z Fundacji OFF.

Związani z tą fundacją wolontariusze od dawna prowadzą dokumentację drzew, wokół których były prowadzone prace budowlane lub zostały niewłaściwie posadzone, by po pewnym czasie, gdy drzewo obumiera, mieć dowody dokumentujące powody takiego stanu rzeczy. „Przyto poważny problem, którym nie zawsze ma się kto zająć ze względu na ogrom pracy i brak ludzi.

Czym będzie się zajmował miejski ogrodnik?

- To będzie jedna, konkretna osoba posiadająca realne uprawnienia w zakresie pielęgnacji i koordynacji działań związanych z ochroną i sadzeniem nowych drzew - mówi Grzegorz Kusza, przewodniczący społecznej komisji ds. zieleni miejskiej.

- Ogrodnik miejski będzie pracował głównie w terenie i dbał o estetykę miasta, nadzorując pielęgnację

•• Drzewa nie aklimatyzują się w naszym mieście z powodu zasolonej, zdegradowanej i słabo zmineralizowanej gleby, niskiego stan wód gruntowych oraz zagrożeń komunikacyjnych i budowlanych. Ogromne szkody powodują głównie ekipy budowlane, które nie zwracają uwagi na rosnące obok wykopu drzewa. I tak np. łyżka koparki potrafi poranić drzewo i wyrwać połowę korzeni z ziemi. Tymczasem zniszczenie części podziemnej drzewa jest nieodwracalne. Ważnym problemem jest sadzenie drzew na chodnikach, gdzie nie mają możliwości rozwinięcia ko-

RAFAŁ

rzeni i dostępu do wody, bo chodniki są tak skonstruowane, że deszczówka zamiast wsiąkać w glebę spływa do kanalizacji. Ekolodzy zwracają również uwagę na wadliwe ogławianie, czyli przycinanie drzew. - Przy niewłaściwym zabiegu drzewo już nigdy nie odzyskuje swojej dawnej krasy - alarmują. ○

Opole ma swój komiks o rabinie Leo Baecku

Gazeta Wyborcza Opole December 18th 2009

•• „Rabin" to komiks opowiadający o znanym na całym świecie żydowskim rabinie Leo Baecku, który w latach 1897-1907 mieszkał w Opolu. Wczoraj w szkole TAK odbyło się spotkanie z autorami komiksu.

Choć Baeck znany jest na całym świecie, jego imieniem nazwane są instytuty naukowe, college, wydawnictwa, widnieje na znaczkach, istnieje nagroda jego imienia, a nawet ma swoją asteroidę, w Polsce i w Opolu jest postacią mało znaną. Przez dziesięć lat Baeck był rabinem Opola, a społeczność żydowska zawdzięcza mu m.in. budowę nowej wspaniałej synagogi (spłonęła podczas nocy kryształowej). Jest szansa, że teraz więcej opolan o nim usłyszy, bowiem powstał komiks opowiadający o jego życiu.

To efekt projektu „Leo Baeck - rabin z Opola" realizowanego przez uczniów opolskiego TAK-a. - Zastanawialiśmy się, jak można podsumować projekt, a ponieważ materiału było zbyt mało, aby powstała z tego książka, postanowiliśmy stworzyć komiks - wspomina Bartłomiej Janicki, nauczyciel historii w szkole TAK, scenarzysta komiksu. - Było także kilka innych powodów, choćby zalecenie nowej podstawy programowej, mówiącej o tym, aby wprowadzać do nauki historii różne źródła. Dzięki komiksowi łatwiej

Fragment komiksu

można przełamywać stereotypy czy pokazywać ubiory i zwyczaje z przeszłości. Poza tym wpisuje się on świetnie także w projekt „Mała Ojczyzna", wiele miast promuje się w ten sposób, teraz Opole także ma swój komiks. Ponadto taka forma łatwo trafia do młodych odbiorców, a mimo iż w obiegowej opinii komiks kojarzy się z czymś niepoważnym, humorystycznym, może być świetnym źródłem do nauki - przekonuje Janicki. Podkreśla, że „Rabin" opatrzony jest materiałem dydaktycznym, kartami pracy i ćwiczeniami gotowymi do wykorzystania na lekcjach historii.

Mimo niemałych problemów autorką rysunków jest Kaja Maliszkiewicz-Ward, która na co dzień mieszka w Nowym Jorku. Komiks udało się stworzyć w ciągu roku. - Myślę, że to niezły czas, zwłaszcza że nie mamy doświadczenia w tego typu projektach - stwierdza Maliszkiewicz-Ward. Co ciekawe, jednym z głównych priorytetów dla ilustratorki była dbałość o szczegóły, a aby je wiernie odtworzyć, sięgała po stare pocztówki i zdjęcia nie tylko miejsc i postaci, ale także strojów. - Jestem perfekcjonistką

RAFAŁ MIELNIK

Autorka rysunków Kaja Maliszkiewicz-Ward i scenarzysta Bartłomiej Janicki

i starałam się oddać jak najwierniej realia, niektóre rysunki, np. panorama Berlina, są wierną kopią zdjęć z tamtych czasów, niektóre budynki przedstawione w komiksie istnieją do dziś, więc korzystałam także ze zdjęć współczesnych. Poza tym, aby wiernie oddać konkretne pozy, powstało mnóstwo zdjęć członków różnych ludzi, choćby mojej rodziny - opowiada.

Rysunki powstawały najpierw ołówkiem, później były poprawiane piórkiem, a po tym skanowane i pomniejszane. - Aby zachować jak najwięcej szczegółów, oryginały rysowałam w formacie A4, ilustracje w komiksie są więc o ok. 70 proc. mniejsze - zaznacza.

Każdy, kto chciałby kupić „Rabina", musi się spieszyć, bo komiks został wydany tylko w nakładzie 150 egzemplarzy. Sprzedaż prowadzi TAK. ○

JACEK KONOPACKI

OP

End of Kaja Maliszkiewicz-Ward Collection